Amendments to the Abstract

Please **add** the following Abstract to this application.

--The present invention relates to a method for mapping a hierarchical data format to a relational database management system. It is an object of the invention to provide a method for mapping a hierarchical data format comprising descriptors to a relational database management system capable of handling diverse types of hierarchical descriptors in a fast manner for inserting descriptors, reading parts of descriptors, reading whole descriptors and performing fast text queries. According to the invention, the descriptors are separated into portions of a common format, which are stored in a relation in the relational database. --